Approved For Release 2003/04/29: CIA-RDP84-00780R006100110012-2

DDA 74-4659

Executive Registry
74-7906

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Request from Mr. David Nelson for OSS Records

Sir:

1. Mr. David Nelson, STA

Agency's assistance in providing OSS records pertaining to Axel

Wenner-Gren. I thought you might be interested in knowing of this request because, as you are aware, STA

2. As of this time we do not foresee any difficulty in providing Mr. Nelson with the information he has requested, although the research involved could well take some time.

John F. Blake
Deputy Director
for
Administration

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SUBJECT : Request from Mr. David Nelson for OSS Records

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2. As of this time we do not foresee any difficulty in providing Mr. Nelson with the information he has requested, although the research involved could well take some time.

John F. Blake Deputy Director for Administration

AC-DDA: ydc (26 November 1974)

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DAVID A. NELSON DIRECTOR, WASHINGTON BUREAU

Nov. 15, 1974 PFIAB

Angus Thuermer Assistant to the Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Thuermer:

Following up on your suggestion pertaining to the release of information concerning Axel Wenner-Gren contained in files from old O.S.S. records. Since the records are more than 30 years old, I am hopeful that they may be declassified under Executive Order 11652. To assist you in the search I am submitting some questions that could be used in review of the file.

- 1. To what extent was Wenner-Gren involved with members of the German High Command in the '30's? Did he undertake any quasi-diplomatic ventures with the State Départment officials...with Mussolini...Neville Chamberlin?
- 2. Is there any information concerning his acquiring of the Yacht "Southern Cross" and what role did he play in the acquiring of Bofors Co. and his relationship with Alfried Krupp?
- 3. Did W*G have any contact with an Austrian munitions maker by the name of Fritz Mandl...who subsequently emigrated to Argentina to set up a factory there?
- 4. Is there any evidence that he transferred huge sums of money for investment in South America in collaboration with the Nazi High Command...especially Herman Goering?
- 5. What was the basis under which W*G was "black-listed" in 1941? Did British Intelligence have information which lead to the impoundment of his holdings on Hog Island in Nassau, Bahamas and breakoff in the friendship that W*G had with the Duke and Duchess of Windsor?
- 6. Is there any record of W*G's operations in Mexico during the war and his relationship with financier Ben Smith, a deprtee Bruno Paglici (sp?) and his contacts with Americans in efforts to get his name off the black list?

Rec'd ISAS 20 Nov 74

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While this list of questions is not inclusive, it represents the general thrust of what I am looking for im my historical research. I would be happy to receive any calls for clarification to assist you in this request. I appreciate your time and effort in helping me on this project. My main object is to set the historical record straight and not any sensationalism. While my efforts are moving into sensitive areas, I trust you will under stand the importance of this endeavor to explain what went on in this momentous period of history. If there are any problems on release of the information, I shall be happy to work out any arrangement satisfactory to strictures that may be placed on this project.

Thanks much for your help and cooperation. As soon as you know about the costs involved please call me at 393-1188 to forward a check to the proper authorities.

Yours Truly.

ave Welson